

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 21, 2005 has been received and carefully considered. In this response, claims 1, 2, 13-16, and 33 have been amended to provide further clarification and remove unnecessary "step of" language. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections therefore is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Allowance of Claims 16-32

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 16-32. Claim 16, from which claims 17-32 depend, has been amended to clarify that the recited memory controller includes a first register portion to enable a transfer of the processed audio data to memory and a second register portion to enable a transfer of the representation of the processed audio data from memory to an audio output.

Rejection of claims 1-2, 4-7 and 15

Claims 1-2, 4-7 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,202,761 (hereinafter "Cooper."). Claim 1, from which claims 2, 4-7 and 15 depend, has been amended. Claim 1, as amended, recites "transferring the audio data to memory in response to assertion of a first register portion." Cooper discloses a system for delaying an audio signal to match the delay of a video signal. Cooper, FIG. 5. Cooper stores audio information associated with a video signal in a memory. Cooper, col. 3, lines 59-64. The system measures the delay of a video signal and sends a pulse to a read address generator. When the read address generator receives the pulse, it initiates transfer of the stored audio data. Cooper, col. 13, line 65 – col. 14, line 10. Cooper does not disclose transferring audio data in response to assertion of a register portion. Instead, in Cooper the audio data is transferred in response to receiving a pulse from a comparator. Cooper, FIG. 5.

Accordingly, Cooper fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1. Further, Cooper fails to disclose each and every element of claims 2, 4-7 and 15, at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 1. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recite additional elements not disclosed by Cooper.

PATENT

Because Cooper fails to disclose each and every element of claims 1-2, 4-7 and 15, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 3 and 8-14

Claims 3 and 8-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Cooper. Claims 3 and 8-14 depend from claim 1. As set forth above, Cooper fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 1. Accordingly, Cooper fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claims 3 and 8-14 at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 1. Furthermore, each of these claims recites additional elements not disclosed by Cooper.

For example, claims 8-14 depend on claim 6. Claim 6 recites that "the delay is determined according to a mode of operation." Cooper does not disclose or suggest different procedures for determining a delay according to a mode of operation. Accordingly, Cooper fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claims 8-14, at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 6. Furthermore, each of these claims recites additional elements not disclosed by Cooper.

Because Cooper fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claims 3 and 8-14, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 33-36

Claims 33-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Cooper in light of United States Patent No. 6,836,295 (hereinafter "the '295 patent"). Claim 33 has been amended to recite "asserting a transfer of processed audio data to memory through a data port in response to assertion of a register portion, wherein the transfer implements the delay amount." As explained above, Cooper does not disclose or suggest asserting a transfer of processed audio data to memory in response to assertion of a register portion. Furthermore, this element is not disclosed or suggested by the '295 patent. The '295 patent discloses a system for decoding audio and video data. The '295 patent system uses a set of delay "markers" in the video and audio data to synchronize the two types of data. '295 patent, col. 7, lines 1-24. The '295 patent does not

PATENT

disclose or suggest asserting a transfer of process audio data to memory through a data port in response to assertion of a register portion. Accordingly, even if there were a motivation to combine Cooper with the '295 patent (which there is not), the references together fail to disclose or suggest each and every element of claims 33.

Claims 34-36 depend from claim 33. Accordingly, Cooper and the '295 patent fail to teach or disclose each and every element of claims 34 and 35 at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 33. Moreover, each of these claims recite additional elements not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

Because Cooper and the '295 patent fail to disclose or suggest each and every element of claims 33-36, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

PATENT

The Applicant does not believe that any additional fees are due, but if the Commissioner believes additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-0441.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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